

HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
HOUSE BILL 201

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003

AN ACT

RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES; ENACTING A DESCRIPTION OF AND  
REQUIREMENTS FOR A STANDARDIZED SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATE;  
PROVIDING FOR A STANDARDIZED SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATE WITH A  
LOGO FOR RETIRED FIREFIGHTERS; IMPOSING A FEE; MAKING AN  
APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. A new section of the Motor Vehicle Code,  
Section 66-3-424 NMSA 1978, is enacted to read:

"66-3-424. [NEW MATERIAL] STANDARDIZED SPECIAL  
REGISTRATION PLATES WITH LOGOS. --

A. Standardized special registration plates with  
logos may be authorized by statute to show state support for  
worthy public purposes. The authorizing statute shall provide  
for collection of fees that, at a minimum, will cover the costs

1 to the division of development, manufacture and issuance of the  
2 special registration plates and logos.

3 B. Standardized special registration plates, on the  
4 standardized areas, shall:

5 (1) display the colors of the state flag, red  
6 lettering on a yellow background;

7 (2) display the phrases "New Mexico USA" and  
8 "Land of Enchantment";

9 (3) provide a space for applying the special  
10 registration logo, centered at the left edge of the plate,  
11 between the attachment holes, beginning one-fourth inch in from  
12 the edge of the plate and having the following dimensions:  
13 four and one-eighth inches in height and three and one-eighth  
14 inches in width; and

15 (4) provide a vehicle registration number, to  
16 be assigned by the division, that consists of five alphanumeric  
17 characters displayed to the right of the special logo area.

18 C. Special registration logos, except for the  
19 standard dimension specified in Paragraph (3) of Subsection B  
20 of this section, shall be left to the design discretion of the  
21 division, in consultation with the public purpose interest  
22 group that requests the special registration plate.

23 D. Standardized special registration plates with  
24 logos, when authorized by statute for a particular public  
25 purpose interest group, shall meet the requirements specified

1 in this subsection prior to plate issuance by the division.

2 The public purpose interest group, no later than the effective  
3 date of the authorizing statute:

4 (1) shall provide evidence acceptable to the  
5 division that it will generate a minimum number of prepaid  
6 applications as determined by the division for the special  
7 registration plate with logo;

8 (2) shall provide a prepayment to the division  
9 in an amount sufficient to cover the plate and logo cost of the  
10 initial order;

11 (3) shall provide a sample of the requested  
12 artwork design in a format specified by the plate manufacturer  
13 for the specialized logo; and

14 (4) in cases where the authorizing statute  
15 includes revenue-sharing with distribution directed to a  
16 particular group or fund, shall show that the recipient is a  
17 governmental entity or a fund authorized for the use of a  
18 governmental entity.

19 E. The division may promulgate rules for  
20 implementation of the provisions of this section."

21 Section 2. A new section of the Motor Vehicle Code,  
22 Section 66-3-424.1 NMSA 1978, is enacted to read:

23 "66-3-424.1. [NEW MATERIAL] STANDARDIZED SPECIAL  
24 REGISTRATION PLATE FOR RETIRED FIREFIGHTERS. --

25 A. The division shall issue a standardized special

. 147298. 1

underscoring material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

1 registration plate with a logo specified in Section 66-3-424  
2 NMSA 1978 indicating that the recipient is a person who is a  
3 retired New Mexico firefighter upon submission by the person of  
4 proof satisfactory to the division that the person has retired  
5 from active employment as a firefighter.

6 B. A person shall not represent himself to be a  
7 retired New Mexico firefighter if he is not in fact a retired  
8 New Mexico firefighter. The secretary shall determine what  
9 constitutes proof of previous active employment as a  
10 firefighter and proof of retirement.

11 C. A person who violates the provisions of  
12 Subsection B of this section is guilty of a petty misdemeanor  
13 and shall be sentenced pursuant to Section 31-19-1 NMSA 1978.

14 D. A fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), which is  
15 in addition to the regular motor vehicle registration fee,  
16 shall be collected by the department for the original issuance  
17 of the special registration plate for retired New Mexico  
18 firefighters.

19 E. Ten dollars (\$10.00) of the fee collected  
20 pursuant to Subsection D of this section shall be retained by  
21 the department and shall be appropriated to the department to  
22 defray the cost of making and issuing special registration  
23 plates for retired New Mexico firefighters.

24 F. The amount of the fee collected pursuant to this  
25 section less any amount distributed pursuant to Subsection E of

1 this section shall be deposited in the motor vehicle suspense  
2 fund for distribution in accordance with Section 66-6-23 NMSA  
3 1978.

4 G. The secretary shall approve the final logo  
5 design for the special registration plates for retired New  
6 Mexico firefighters. "

7 Section 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. --Except for Section 1 of this  
8 act, the effective date of the provisions of this act is  
9 January 1, 2004. The effective date of the provisions of  
10 Section 1 of this act is July 1, 2003.